

CLEAN COPY OF AMENDED CLAIMS

Sub 1
1. (thrice amended) A boot for a ski or in-line roller skate, the boot having a heel and a sole, the sole being connected to a flexible upper, wherein the boot has a rigid part in a rear region of the boot, over about one half of the length of the sole and adjacent the heel of a wearer,

C1 wherein the rest of the sole is flexible so as to allow the foot to flex during walking, and

wherein the rigid part includes an interlocking surface which interlocks with a binding of an alpine ski or in-line roller skate thus firmly fixing the heel portion against flexing with respect to the flexible sole.

C2 3. (twice amended) The boot as claimed in claim 1, wherein the rigid part (4 ;5) encloses a heel of the wearer.

Sub 5
5. (thrice amended) The boot as claimed in claim 3, wherein the rigid part (5) has at least one cutout (7, 14), which engages the alpine ski or skate binding.

Sub 8
8. (twice amended) The boot as claimed in claim 1, wherein the rigid part (1) has a profiled part (6, 7 ; 6, 8 ; 11) of standard length which engages a ski or skate binding irrespective of the boot size.

AMENDED PARAGRAPH

C5 The object of the present invention is to provide the user with a flexible and comfortable boot which, on the one hand, makes it possible to walk with ease and, on the other hand, forms an interface between the leg and the ski or the skate, this interface being capable of [withstanding] resisting the forces involved with the release of a ski binding or the engagement of the skate, respectively.

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The object of the present invention is to provide the user with a flexible and comfortable boot which, on the one hand, makes it possible to walk with ease and, on the other hand, forms an interface between the leg and the ski or the skate, this interface being capable of resisting the forces involved with the release of a ski binding or the engagement of the skate, respectively.